

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, after the title, insert the following:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is the U.S. national phase of PCT Appln. No. PCT/EP2005/002545 filed March 10, 2005, which claims priority to German application 10 2004 013 469.3 filed March 18, 2004.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

On page 1, before the paragraph beginning on line 7, please add the following:

2. Description of the Related Art

On page 2, before line 1, please insert the following heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 2, after line 20, please insert the following heading and paragraphs:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGURE 1 shows a perspective illustration of a sack 1 in the empty state.

FIGURE 2 shows an enlarged partial detail according to the region II of Figure 1.

On page 2, before line 22, please insert the following heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Please amend the paragraph on page 2, line 22 as shown below:

Suitable air-permeable materials for the inner layer 9 are paper, woven materials or nonwoven materials made of artificial fibres or natural fibres. Preference is given to paper, for example conventional kraft papers having ~~a grammage an areal weight~~ of 30 to 120 g/m², preferably 60 to 90 g/m². For the air-impermeable outer walls 10, the plastic films which are usual in the packaging sector are suitable, preferably polyolefin films such as polyethylene or polypropylene films and PVC films. The film thickness is generally 20 to 200 µm.

Please amend the paragraph on page 2, line 33 as shown below:

When filled, the packaging medium 1 has a box-like shape. The length is preferably between 30 and 120 cm, particularly preferably 60 to 100 cm. The width is preferably 20 to 80 cm, more preferably 40 to 60 cm. The width of the side parts is preferably between 5 and 30 cm, particularly more preferably 10 to 20 cm.

Please amend the paragraph on page 3, line 25 as shown below:

The outer material 10, generally plastic film, overlaps over a subregion 11 of up to 50% of the total area of front or rear side 2, 3, on the front side 3 or on the rear side 2 or on both sides. The outer wall 10 preferably overlaps only on one of the two sides, particularly most preferably only on the rear side 2, which is the side on which the sack generally rests. In a further preferred embodiment, the plastic film overlaps over the entire length. The overlap region 11 preferably amounts to 10 to 50% of the total area of the respective side.

Please amend the paragraph on page 3, line 37 as shown below:

In the overlap region 11, the inner layer 10a of the plastic film is perforated. The perforation density is generally 0.5 to 5 holes per cm². The perforation can be applied by means of needling over the entire overlap region 11 or a subregion. 10 to 50% of the area of the overlap region 11 is preferably provided with the perforation. Perforation is preferably carried out over the entire length of the overlap region. A distance of 0.5 to 10 cm from the edges 12 and 13 of the overlap region 11 is ~~particularly~~ most preferably maintained, the distance to the edge 12 of the overlap region, which is open, preferably amounting to 2 to 10 cm. The hole size, perforation density and the perforated area depend substantially on how high the passage of air during filling must be. Depending on the requirements, these variables can be adjusted within the above-mentioned limits by those skilled in the art.

Please amend the paragraph on page 4, line 16 as shown below:

At the edges 12 and 13 of the overlap region, the inner layer 10a and the outer layer 10b of the plastic film are joined to each other, for example with an adhesive seam or welded seam (14, 15). In order to permit the air which escapes on account of the perforation to emerge, the joint is interrupted at one or both edges, preferably only at one edge. In general, the joint is interrupted in a region 16 which covers 10 to 50% of the total length. The interruption is preferably located in the upper half, ~~particularly~~ more preferably in the upper third, of the packaging medium 1, since the residual air is situated at the top during the filling operation.

Please amend the paragraph on page 4, line 30 as shown below:

With this construction, it is firstly ensured that the air can emerge quickly during the filling, ~~in spite of~~ despite the outer walls being made of plastic film. During storage of the filled sacks, the opening in the overlap region is closed by the inherent weight of the filled packaging medium, with the effect that no atmospheric moisture or spray can enter the interior via the perforation.

Please amend the paragraph on page 5, line 1 as shown below:

The packaging medium is suitable for the transport and the storage of particulate materials, such as granules, fibres or fine-grained or coarse-grained powders. The packaging medium is particularly suitable for materials that are sensitive to moisture. Examples of these are polymer powders, in particular polymer powders that can be redispersed in water (dispersion powders) or else highly disperse silica, cement, gypsum, dry mixtures containing cement or gypsum such as dry mortar, flour, animal feed, water-soluble, and powdery substances such as cement plasticizers[[,]] thickening agent.

Please amend the paragraph on page 5, line 19 as shown below:

~~Figure 1 shows a perspective illustration of sack 1 in the empty state.~~

~~Figure 2 shows an enlarged partial detail according to the region H in Figure 1.~~